

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (previously presented): A solid multi-piece golf ball comprising a solid core, a mantle of at least one layer enclosing the solid core, and a cover of at least one layer enclosing the mantle, wherein the mantle is made of a material composed primarily of a thermoplastic elastomer selected from the group consisting of polyester, polyamide, polyolefin, and polystyrene, and has a thickness of up to 1.5 mm,

the mantle and the solid core have a compression ratio, defined as (compression of mantle)/(compression of solid core), of at least 0.98, the compression being the amount of deformation when subjected to a load of 1,275 N from an initial load of 98 N, and

the solid core has a compression of 3.2 to 4.5 mm and has a surface and a center with a difference in JIS-C hardness therebetween, defined as (surface hardness - center hardness), of at least 5, and

the cover is made of a material composed primarily of a thermoplastic resin having a Shore D hardness of 60 to 68.

2.-5. (canceled).

6. (original): The golf ball of claim 1, wherein the compression ratio between the mantle and the solid core is at least 1.00.

7. (original): The golf ball of claim 1, wherein JIS-C hardness difference between the surface and the center of the solid core is at least 8.

8. (original): The golf ball of claim 1, wherein the solid core has a diameter of at least 32.0 mm.

9. (original): The golf ball of claim 1, wherein the JIS-C hardness difference between the surface and the center of the solid core is less than 22.

10. (original): The golf ball of claim 1, wherein the JIS-C hardness difference between the surface and the center of the solid core is less than 20.

11. (original): The golf ball of claim 1, wherein the compression ratio of the mantle and the solid core is less than 1.08.

12. (original): The golf ball of claim 1, wherein the compression ratio of the mantle and the solid core is less than 1.05.

13. (canceled).

14. (original): The golf ball of claim 1, wherein the Shore D hardness of the mantle is from 15 to 30.

15. (original): The golf ball of claim 1, wherein the Shore D hardness of the mantle is from 25 to 40.

16. (original): The golf ball of claim 1, wherein the mantle has a thickness of up to 1.3 mm.

17. (original): The golf ball of claim 1, wherein the Shore D hardness of the mantle is less than the Shore D hardness of the surface of the solid core.

18. (previously presented): The golf ball of claim 1, wherein the specific gravity of the mantle is 1.050 to 1.121.